



**1401 High School Dr.
Bellevue, NE 68005**

**Band Office/Attendance/Emergency Contact Phone:
(402) 293-4174**

Website: <http://www.chieftainband.com/>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/bellevueeasthighschoolband> <http://www.facebook.com/BEHSguard>

Twitter: @ChieftainBand BEHS Band

Band APP <https://band.us/n/aaa3z7Vba973K>

Staff:

Charles A. Wright, Director of Bands - charles.wright@bpsne.net

Jeremy Krug, Associate Director – Jeremy.krug@bpsne.net

Color Guard Instructors

Emily Radziunas and Jaslyn Schweiss

Percussion Instructors

Steve Posan and John Benson

Woodwind Instructors

Angelica Gonzalez, Lucas Minor, Kennedy Wieland, Melissa Watzke, Gabby Alvarez

Brass Instructors

Sean Bell, Brian Orellana, Wade Kellett, Alex Plowman, Michael Moore

To-Do/Turn-In Checklist

- **Turn in Band Information Form**
- **Turn in Agreement Form**
- **Turn in Code of Conduct Form**
- **Turn in Medical Release Form**
- **Turn in Band Fee Form & Payment**
- **Sign Up for Volunteer Opportunities**
- **Sign Up for Band Text Alerts**
- **Sign Up for 'Band Notes'**
- **'Like' the Band Facebook Pages, and 'Follow' @ChieftainBand**
- **Review Handbook & Information as a Family**

Attendance Policy

Attendance is one of the most important aspects of band and colorguard. When a student is not present, it can create difficulties for fellow band members. All students should be present in order to have a successful rehearsal and performance. All rehearsals and performances are mandatory and part of the student's' grade. This includes morning rehearsals, evening rehearsals, performances, call times, and sectionals. Please do your best to schedule dentist, orthodontics, doctor, or other appointments outside of band rehearsal or band class.

Excused Absences

In some cases, there may be times when conflicts arise that prevent you from being at rehearsal. Some of these may include a wedding, family emergency, medical emergency, sickness, etc. If for any reason you may have to miss something there are 3 things you should do:

- 1) Discuss the absence with Mr. Wright at least 1-2 weeks in advance, where applicable. Complete the Absence form.
- 2) Have your guardian contact Mr. Wright via email or phone (at least 2 weeks in advance where applicable). Complete the Absence form.
- 3) Notify and remind 3 people of your absence: a) Your Section Leader, b) A Drum Major, c) Mr. Wright.

Unexcused Absences

Work-related absences and tardiness are not excused; please be organized with your workplace to prevent this from happening. Missing rehearsals or performances due to an abundance of homework or studying are also not an excuse; use good time management, prioritization skills, and planning skills to get everything done on time. Unexcused absence time will either be made up with a director after school or with a semester project, as determined by the band directors.

Tardies

Rehearsals and warm-up times start promptly at the designated time. You should be ready to begin rehearsing with all of your materials at the designated time. Arrive early enough to get your things ready. Call times are designed to give you ample time to prepare for performances. Please do not be tardy. Less than 10 minutes late will count as 1 tardy. 10-20 minutes late will count as 2 tardies. More than 20 minutes late will count as an unexcused absence. If you are late, please sign in with a drum major on the tardy sheet.

1st Tardy – Warning #1

2nd Tardy – Warning #2

3rd Tardy – 15 minute makeup after school

4th Tardy – 30 minute makeup after school

5th Tardy – 45 minute makeup after school and call to parents

Any further tardies will result in an I.S.S.

Summer Marching Band Sectional Attendance

Monday Evening Sectionals 5:00pm-9:00pm – Woodwinds, Brass, Percussion, and Colorguard

Thursday Evening Sectionals 5:00pm-9:00pm - Percussion and Colorguard

There will also be additional weekly sectionals as determined by the directors and section leaders. If you are in town, we expect you to be at sectionals. With good communication, we are flexible with vacations, summer camps, etc. Again, work is not an excuse to miss sectionals. All of Summer Band Camp is mandatory for all students.

Typical Weekly Schedule for Marching Band

Monday: 7:00am through 1st Hour, Full Band 5:00pm-9:00pm

Tuesday: 1st Hour

Wednesday: 7:00am through 1st Hour

Thursday: 7:00am through 1st Hour, Percussion & Guard 5:00pm-9:00pm

Friday: 1st Hour, Football Games (when applicable)

Saturday: Rehearsals, Parades, Contests (when applicable)

There may also be additional weekly small sectionals – these are also mandatory.

Typical Contest Day for Marching Band (Saturdays)

Potential morning rehearsal at BEHS and/or Depart BEHS for contest site in the morning

Prelims Performance Late Morning/Early Afternoon and Lunch provided by Fees/Boosters

Finals Performance Late Afternoon/Early Evening and Dinner provided by Fees/Boosters

Marching Show Alternates System

In order to ensure there are no ‘holes’ in the competitive marching show drill, there will be a group of designated back-up marchers, known as alternate marchers. These students will still receive the full benefit of the Bellevue East Marching Chieftains program. Alternates will have a designated spot in the marching show to perform at home football games or exhibitions, but may not necessarily perform at a competition. Students who may be injured, are sick, have difficulty marching, need to improve their skills, have missed rehearsals or tardies, have outstanding fees, or for other reasons may be issued marching alternate status at any time in the season. Alternates may be issued a performing part in the competitive show drill by showing drastic improvements or need to switch spots with a performer who may become ill, injured, or placed on the marching alternates list. Be aware that students who are alternates and have outstanding fees may not be allowed to travel with the band.

Dress Policy

Dress appropriately at all times. No offensive, questionable, or revealing clothing is permitted. School dress codes are still enforced on trips. For outdoor marching band rehearsals, light colored clothing (t-shirt and athletic shorts) are suggested, comfortable newer athletic shoes, and bring sunscreen!

Marching Band Uniforms

Wear your uniform with pride! When you are in uniform, you are representing Bellevue East High School and the tradition of excellence of the Bellevue East High School Band. Playing tag, rolling on the ground, and wrestling in uniform is unacceptable. No running in uniform. Absolutely no food or drink (other than water) may be consumed in uniform. **ABSOLUTELY NO CELL PHONES IN UNIFORM**

The following items are worn under or with the band uniform:

- Show Shirt = Show T-Shirt & Black Lightweight/Athletic Shorts (Chieftain Shorts are also acceptable)
[Football Games]

- P&B = Purple Dri-Fit Shirt and Black Chieftain Shorts [Competitions/Parades]

- Black Socks – thick, long (knee-high), black socks

- Black Marching Shoes

Hair and Accessories:

- Hair that is collar-length or longer (male and female) must be put up under the shako. Use bobby pins and/or black ponytail holders. Hair buns must be on the top of your head to fit into the shako. Hair **MUST** be a natural hair color.

- No nail polish, piercings, or jewelry. If the jewelry cannot be removed, cover it with a band-aid. Clear nail polish shines under the stadium lighting so it cannot be worn.

- **NO MAKEUP.**

- Marching band competitions typically do not provide dressing rooms. Plan accordingly.

- Drink lots of water while in uniform.

- Saxophones & Bass Clarinet Players: Keep your neck strap clean so it doesn't stain your uniform. Wash it in the sink with warm water and dish soap.

- Brass Players: Polish your horn so that it won't stain your gloves. If you are checking out a school instrument, wear gloves. (oils from your hand can eat away at the chrome)

- Purchase a 6-pack of long, thick black socks. You'll be glad you did.

- Purchase a big water jug and lots of sunscreen for band camp. You'll thank yourself later.

- Purchase a 3-ring binder with plastic sheets for music and drill.

- **Be sure to label your belongings**, including your Purple Dri-Fit shirt and Chieftain shorts.

Concert Black Attire

Concert Band, Symphonic Band, and Wind Ensemble performers will perform in 'Concert Black' attire. Our goal is to not only create a unifying look on stage, but also motivate the audience to focus on the music rather than the attire of students. For the top, a black button up-collared shirt or black blouse is appropriate. Please aim for $\frac{3}{4}$ sleeves and covered shoulders. For the bottom, black slacks, dresses, or a black skirt (with solid dark colored stockings) is appropriate. Dresses and skirts must go past the knees while sitting down. Black closed-toe shoes and black socks are also required. Small and conservative earrings and a necklace are appropriate. Please, straight black outfits - no color, no pinstripes, no designs, no jeans, no t-shirts, no hats, nor tennis shoes. If you are unable to obtain concert black attire, please contact Mr. Wright privately.

Purchased Clothing, Section Shirts, etc.

Due to copyright restrictions, no one is allowed to produce Bellevue East High School clothing or Band Program clothing without the consent of administration and band director. Any and all section shirts need to be approved by Mr. Wright in advance. There is plenty of great band sanctioned clothing available throughout the season through the Band Booster organization.

School Instruments

Bellevue East High School provides instruments for students who perform on larger or specialized instruments. These instruments, cases, and accessories are property of Bellevue East High School and Bellevue Public Schools. Instruments will be checked out in good working condition and should be returned as such. Students are responsible for any repairs due to 'wear-and-tear' or negligence while the instrument is checked out.

A-Wing, Band Room, and Band Locker Cleanliness

The A-Wing is home to over 400+ performing arts students. The band rooms are home to 200+ students, staff, and faculty. The rooms are also used for various district activities throughout the year. Please do your part to keep the performing arts area clean in good representation of the Bellevue East Band Program. Band lockers are a privilege, not a right. Please leave all of your personal belongings, clothing, books, instrument, case, and accessories INSIDE your locker AT ALL TIMES. Any materials left out will be confiscated. If your book bag does not fit inside your locker, please set it on the floor up against the lockers out of the way of the rest of the room. There is absolutely no food or drink in the band room, unless for a special approved event. If you see trash, pick it up. If the chairs and stands are messy, fix them. If you move something, put it back. EVERYONE is responsible for the cleanliness of the performing arts areas!

Cell Phone Policy

While cell phones have become an incredibly useful tool, they have also become increasingly distracting to society and learning. In order to minimize distractions, cell phones should remain in your locker, or with your accessories if we are outdoors. We have plenty to do, plenty to learn and plenty of great people you can converse with. The only time students should be seen with cell phones in use is during a break. Otherwise, cell phones will held by instructors until the rehearsal finishes.

Social Media Policy

Remember, as a member of the Bellevue East Instrumental Music Program, everything you say and do is a direct reflection of the band program. Posting any material that reflects negatively upon the Bellevue East Band Program will not be tolerated and disciplinary action will be taken. This could include (but is not limited to) material that chastises other members and sections, other band programs, or other school and district programs. Remember: once something it is posted, it is etched in stone forever - think before you post.

Rehearsal or Performance

Due to strict music copyright laws, please do not videotape any portion of rehearsals or performances. Furthermore, please do not share or post any rehearsal or performance videos on social media, YouTube, etc. Failure to comply may result in legal action against Bellevue Public Schools, Bellevue East High School, The Bellevue East Band Program, and/or yourself directly.

Letter & Chevron Awards and Band Medals

Students who complete their first full year of marching band along with symphonic band or wind ensemble or winter guard will receive a letter jacket letter. Students who complete an additional full year of marching band along with symphonic band or wind ensemble or winter guard will receive a letter jacket chevron. Band Medals are presented to students who go above and beyond the classroom expectations. Over 400 points must be earned to receive a medal. Points can be earned by participating in: private lessons, jazz band, solo or ensemble contest, leadership team, honor bands, auditions, drum corps, winter guard, winter drumline, etc. Forms to apply for letters, chevrons, and medals will be available in late April. For a more in-depth look at medal points, visit the band website.

GPS Policy and Operation

The goal of GPS is to allow students to wisely designate 30 minutes of their day to be productive how they see fit. Students should use this time to do homework, visit teachers for help, make up tests, practice their instruments, hold sectionals, or for other academic purposes. If you would like to come down to the band room during GPS, please obtain a pass from an instructor early in the day. Be sure the instructor puts the correct date along with their signature on the pass – the pass is only valid for that day. When you arrive at the band room, please sign-in on the GPS Sign-In sheet. While you are in the band room, you should be doing one of the following only: 1) practicing your instrument, or 2) doing homework quietly. It should NOT be used for socialization, but for academic purposes only. **COMING TO THE BAND ROOM DURING GPS IS A PRIVILEGE, NOT A RIGHT. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE EXPECTATIONS OF GPS IN THE BAND ROOM WILL RESULT IN A STUDENT BEING PLACED ON THE ‘NO PASS’ LIST. PLEASE BE ROLE MODELS FOR THE REST OF THE SCHOOL AND USE THIS TIME WISELY AND PRODUCTIVELY.**

BEAST Basketball Band Requirements

The BEAST Basketball Band is a fun and exciting part of the band program, which performs at 5 to 6 selected Bellevue East home basketball games and any potential or selected postseason games. The performance schedule will be released as soon as the basketball game schedule is available. The BEAST Basketball Band typically performs at selected Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday evening games. Students in Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble and Concert Band are distributed into two bands: ‘Purple Band’ or ‘Silver Band.’ A new “point system” for grading will be revealed prior to the season.

Travel Policies

- 1) Due to district and NSAA/NSBA policies, all students are required to travel with the band to and from events. The only exceptions include travel from another school event during the same day or early release with a guardian following an event. Any exceptions must be approved in writing with Mr. Wright at least a week in advance. Students must check in or check out directly with Mr. Wright alongside their guardian or transporter.
- 2) Please obey chaperones and directors at all times. They are here for everyone’s safety.
- 3) Please do not answer for someone else when roll is being taken. Once roll is taken, no one may leave the premises.
- 4) When given free time, do not go off on your own. Everyone must remain in groups of at least 4.
- 5) Dress appropriately. School dress codes are still enforced on trips. No offensive, questionable, or revealing clothing is permitted.
- 6) No alcoholic beverages, drugs, tobacco, electronic cigarettes, weapons, or fireworks are allowed at any time on a trip. Any illegal substances will be dealt with by local authorities.

Hotel Trip Policy

- No one is allowed to leave the hotel at any time unless otherwise noted on the itinerary.
- No one is allowed in any other hotel room or hotel hallway besides their own.
- No students of the opposite sex are allowed in the room at any time.
- No visitors are allowed at the hotel.
- Doors connecting adjacent rooms must remain closed at all times.
- Do not lean out of hotel room windows or throw objects from windows or balconies.
- All students must be in their assigned rooms during the times listed on the itinerary. No exceptions. Lights out means lights out.
- You may not use room services, pay per view, or in room refrigerators.
- Do not use the hotel phones unless to contact a chaperone. Students who break any of these rules will be sent home at their own expense and/or parents will be called to come pick them up immediately.

Bellevue East Band Boosters

Mission

The Bellevue East High School Band Boosters is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization whose mission is to support the development of excellence in music education, performance skills, and leadership in our instrumental music and pageantry arts programs.

Vision

The Bellevue East High School Band Boosters supports the band program in the following manner: - Work to build and maintain an organization of parents who assist and promote the activities of the instrumental music and pageantry arts programs - Promote the band program in a positive manner - Serve as a promotional and marketing organization in the community - Generate and provide additional funding

Band Booster Board

Tony Secrist, President – boosterpresident@chieftainband.com

Vice President – boostervicepres@chieftainband.com

Debra Hudson, Secretary – boostersecretary@chieftainband.com

Treasurer – boostertreasurer@chieftainband.com

Student Accounts

Student accounts will be monitored and maintained by the Band Booster Treasurer. Each student or family will be given a specialized number to maintain anonymity. Students will receive a monthly account update slip. STUDENTS, PLEASE TAKE THESE HOME TO YOUR GUARDIANS. The accounts with their anonymous number will also be posted monthly on the band website. Students who have not paid fees by the scheduled full payment due date will be placed on the alternates list.

Payments

To make payments to your account, check or cash should be placed in an envelope with your name, instrument, and account number (if possible) and dropped inside the money box. The money box is located in the small band room on the wall next to the band office WINDOW. All checks should be made out to 'Bellevue East Band Boosters.' Please do not bring it to the directors, unless there is a hold on placed on you by the school.

Payment Schedule

We are asking that everyone pay a deposit up front of 50% of the band fee at pizza night to secure a spot in the Marching Chieftains production. Total cost is \$555 for new band members (Returning members is less depending on needs).

Suggested Payment Schedule Options:

- a) Pay in full at Pizza Night
- b) Pay 50% at Pizza Night and 50% at Summer Band Camp
- c) Pay 50% at Pizza Night, then 25% at Summer Band Camp and 25% by Sept 10th.

ALL PAYMENTS MUST BE MADE IN FULL BY SEPT 1st IN ORDER TO NOT BE MOVED TO ALTERNATE MARCHER STATUS. If you need to make other payment accommodations, please speak with our treasurer privately to create a payment schedule contract.

Snack Donations

We encourage donating a few snacks for students at each competition – granola bars, fruit snacks, trail mix, fruit, etc. is greatly appreciated. Depending on supply, there may be an all-call again later in the season.

Fundraising

The Bellevue East Band Boosters provide many fundraising events and opportunities to raise money for the general operating band fund, which directly benefit each and every student in some way. There are also a few limited opportunities for students to help raise money for their individual account fees. For instance, students can use money raised during the march-a-thon to pay up to help with their band fees. There may be other limited fundraisers scheduled and available for individual student accounts.

Parent and Student Volunteer Help

It is important to the success of the band program that parents and students help, volunteer, and get involved in the band booster program. In this day of diminishing school budgets, booster groups and volunteer hours are becoming increasingly more important. Without a booster program, booster board, and a lot of volunteer help, we are unable to run events such as the HWAA Winterguard Festival, Bellevue East Jazz Festival, and Chieftain Marching Invitational (to name a few), which provide fundraising that benefits every student in the program in some shape or form. Without this fundraising, we are unable to maintain a quality program and experience for our students. Again, each one of our students benefit from the funding resources the booster program provides, so please consider stepping up and giving back as a board member or volunteer in order to help our instructional staff improve the quality and experience the Bellevue East Band Program provides for Bellevue East students. There are a multitude of activities, events, and fundraisers hosted by the Bellevue East Band and Band Booster organization. It takes many volunteers to help make events run smoothly. There are well over 1200 cataloged volunteer hours needed in the fall and 600 cataloged volunteer hours needed in the spring.

We strongly encourage every band family to donate time by providing volunteer hours by providing:

- At least 1 shift at the Chieftain Marching Invitational (October)
- At least 1 shift at the HWAA Winterguard Festival (February/April)
- At least 1 shift at the Bellevue East Jazz Festival (March)
- At least 2-3 more volunteer shifts throughout the year (such as pit help, lunch/dinner help, concessions, chaperone, etc.)

Parent Marching Festival Wristbands/Entry

Please be advised that the band staff receives only a designated number of wristbands at each marching festival. Please do not expect to receive one. Wristbands will be handed out to the immediate band staff, and any leftovers will be distributed at the director's discretion. People assisting with props, pit equipment, flats, etc. will generally not need a wristband to gain field access for the field show portion. Again, please be prepared to pay for your entry into marching band festivals.

Parent Chaperones

Parent chaperone assistance is a necessity to help ensure efficiency on our trips, as well as the safety and well being of our students. If you are interested in assisting with chaperone support for any of the marching festivals or trips, please fill out the chaperone form along with the background check form, and return them to Mr. Wright. Chaperones will be chosen as far in advance as possible (at least 2 weeks in advance). It is extremely helpful to have a registered RN as a chaperone for each competition or trip; if you hold those qualifications, please notify us and consider assisting us on our trips. If you are selected to be a chaperone, you will be notified and attend a chaperone meeting with more information regarding the duties and expectations of the trip.

General Chaperone Expectations

- Watch out for the care, safety, and behavior of our students.
- Exhibit and model the same mature behaviors that we expect of the students.
- Exhibit, model, and maintain the band policies, travel policies, and BPS policies.
- Assist with other operations throughout the day.
- Be adaptable and flexible, as sometimes situations may be cause for a change of plans.

Bus Rider Chaperones

- Check in with the band director and band booster president.
- Be aware of the itinerary, movement schedule, and check-in points for the day.
- Be sure to listen to any announcements made by the directors.
- Take role and headcount on bus.
- Maintain order, respect, and low-volume on the bus.
- Ensure cleanliness of the bus.
- Ensure quick and efficient bathroom stops or meal stops.
- Be available to help students get materials and equipment off the buses.
- Assist with serving meals and distributing water.
- Be prepared to pay for any admission fees.

Overnight Trip Chaperones

- Attend any scheduled trip and chaperone meetings.
- Know your specific assigned hotel rooms/people.
- Monitor students throughout the hotel (general meeting areas, hallways, pool, etc.).
- Be prepared to pay your portion of the hotel room cost (shared with another chaperone).
- Be prepared to pay the entry fee into any festivals.
- Any admission fees to additional events (such as museums, sporting events, theme parks, etc.) that require student supervision will be provided for chaperones.

Truck & Van Driver Chaperones

- Hold a valid driver's license and a safe driving record; please provide a photocopy of your license to Mr. Wright.